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CASE N-32809A

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September 30, 2005

Date of Deposit

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

Art Unit: 1615

GIBSON ET AL.

Examiner: Vanik, David L.

APPLICATION NO: 10/721,652

FILED: NOVEMBER 25, 2003

FOR: PREBIOTIC COMPOSITIONS

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Sir:

The Office Action of July 18, 2005 has a shortened statutory time set to expire on August 18, 2005. A two-month extension is hereby requested pursuant to 37 CFR §1.136(a).

Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis in the amount of \$450 for payment of the extension fee. An additional copy of this paper is here enclosed. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees under 37 CFR §1.17 which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 19-0134 in the name of Novartis.

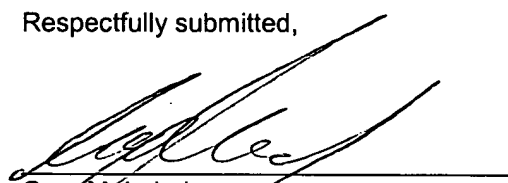
10/04/2005 HLE333 00000042 190134 10721652

01 FC:1252 450.00 DA

Novartis
Corporate Intellectual Property
One Health Plaza, Building 104
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Date: September 30, 2005

Respectfully submitted,


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